

MEETING MINUTES
STATE CONSUMER AND FAMILY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
May 12, 2005

Present: Jerry Annis, Carl Britton-Watkins, Terry Burgess, Pete Clary, Zack Commander, Sandy DuPuy, Kathleen Herr, Ron Huber, Ed Masters, Doug Michaels, Ellen Perry, Barbara Richards, Betty Stanberry and Amelia Thorpe.

Absent: Cody Ferrell.

DMH/DD/SAS Staff Present: Chris Phillips, Ann Remington, and Wes Rider.

Guest Presenters: Brad Trotter (DMH/DD/SAS) and Lee Williamson.

Guests: Judy Clark (Southeastern Center [SEC] CFAC Chair), Lori Ferucci SEC CFAC member, Carolyn Craddock (SEC Director of Consumer Affairs and Customer Service), and Julia Masters.

1. Welcome and Introductions

- ◆ The Chairperson opened the meeting and welcomed the attendees.
- ◆ Mention was made regarding the decision of Secretary Carmen Hooker-Odom to re-appoint four SCFAC members to a three year term: Carl Britton-Watkins, Pete Clary, Zack Commander, and Amelia Thorpe.
- ◆ Dorothy O'Neal was congratulated on her recent appointment to the SCFAC for an initial two-year term. Ms. O'Neal is presently a volunteer with a non-profit agency and serves on the Johnston County CFAC.

2. The SCFAC went Into Closed Session

- ◆ Discussion occurred regarding the purpose and mission of the SCFAC.

3. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

- ◆ The meeting agenda was approved with additions from Terry Burgess, Barbara Richards and Sandy Dupuy.
- ◆ The April 2005 minutes were reviewed and approved as written.

4. Contact Information on SCFAC Website

- ◆ Contact information for SCFAC members can be found on the SCFAC web page.
- ◆ The committee discussed the possibility of having a link on the SCFAC web page that would enable users to email the SCFAC by clicking on a link (for example, scfac@ncmail.net).
- ◆ Ann Remington agreed to look into the possibility of a link being added to the website and will report back to the committee.

5. Public Comment

- ◆ Lori Ferucci, SEC CFAC member, addressed the group. Ms. Ferucci presented information on brain donations to McLean Hospital (affiliated with Harvard Medical School) which maintains a brain bank for research purposes. Ms. Ferucci advocated for continued research into the neurobiological basis for mental illnesses and stressed the need for research to find cures.

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- ♦ The group engaged Ms. Ferucci in a dialogue during which the importance of research was discussed. It was mentioned that UNC Medical School may be doing similar research and may also have a need for brain donations.
- ♦ Ed Masters stated that information on brain donation is provided during NAMI's Family to Family course. He added that after the brain is removed, the person's body can be prepared in a way that makes an open coffin possible. He added that there is no cost to the family of the donor.
- ♦ The following points were made during the presentation/discussion: McLean hospital will provide \$500.00 to obtain the brains of people with brain disorders and for brains of close relatives of persons with brain disorders. More information can be accessed online at www.brainbankmclean.org.

6. Meeting with SCFAC Representative and Division ELT

- ♦ Carl Britton-Watkins reported to the committee on meeting with the DMH/DD/SAS Executive Leadership Team (ELT) on April 26, 2005.
- ♦ Carl said that Division Director Mike Moseley suggested that the SCFAC begin to establish communication with local CFACs and form a working relationship with them.
- ♦ Carl reported that the ELT suggested that the SCFAC issue a communication to the local CFACs encouraging them to work with their LMEs to develop natural and community supports for non-target populations. A motion was made, seconded and passed that the SCFAC Chairperson draft this communication to the LME Directors and local CFAC Chairs.
- ♦ Carl reported on his discussion with ELT regarding conflict of interest issues. Carl reported that the ELT recommended that the SCFAC issue a communication to the local CFACs sharing the SCFAC's Conflict of Interest Policy and encouraging the local CFACs to develop their own policies. A motion was made, seconded and passed that the SCFAC Chairperson draft a communication to the local CFACs pertaining to conflict of interest issues.

7. Audio Taping of SCFAC Meetings

- ♦ The Chair, noticing that a SCFAC member was tape recording the meeting, asked that the tape recorder be turned off.
- ♦ Discussion was held on the legality of persons recording the meeting. The NC Open Meeting Law was cited. The Committee voted in favor of allowing the member to record the proceedings with the instruction that the tapes be given to and retained by those responsible for the minutes.

8. Application Review of Potential New SCFAC Members

- ♦ The SCFAC decided to enter into closed session while reviewing SCFAC membership applications. The process of selection was discussed.
- ♦ A motion was made, seconded and passed to recommend to the Secretary re-appointment of the 4 SCFAC members with terms set to expire. These members, if re-appointed, would serve 3 year terms.
- ♦ The committee reviewed the applications of 10 people who have applied for membership to the SCFAC.
- ♦ The committee made its final recommendations. Ann Remington recorded the committee's recommendations and will submit them to the Secretary for her review and consideration.

9. Teleconference Call with Leza Wainwright, DMH/DD/SAS Deputy Director

- ◆ Ms. Wainwright announced the Division's issuance of Communication Bulletin #039 announcing the decision to postpone the implementation of the new service definitions until October 1, 2005.
- ◆ Budget issues: Ms. Wainwright gave a brief review of the NC Senate budget proposals relating to DMH/DD/SAS. She pointed out that within this budget there are huge reductions. She said that Medicaid eligibility rule changes would eliminate Medicaid eligibility for about 8000 people in NC. The budget also calls for freezing provider rates.
- ◆ Ms. Wainwright provided information on Division's creation of an Advocacy Organization Database to be used by the Division to increase Advocacy input in Division initiatives.
- ◆ Ms. Wainwright took questions from individual members of the committee.
 - ❖ A member asked if the Division had endorsed specific best practices. Ms. Wainwright responded that the Service Definition package contains evidence based best practices and therefore Division endorsement of those services..
 - ❖ A member asked about the concept of Provider report cards. Ms. Wainwright referenced the memo from the Division that was published on March 28th that addressed this issue.
 - ❖ A member asked Ms. Wainwright to address the Medicaid Buy-In Option. Ms Wainwright stated that Medicaid buy-in has been an option for some time but has never been approved by the legislature. Ms. Wainwright reported that a bill regarding Medicaid Buy-In is currently being considered by the legislature.
 - ❖ A member asked for clarification as to why Evidenced-Based Best Practices defined by the State of North Carolina differ from SAMSHA.
 - ❖ A member asked if CBS will be deleted from the service array. Ms. Wainwright stated that CBS cannot continue due to Federal CMS objections. According to Ms. Wainwright, Developmental Therapy will take the place of CBS. Developmental Therapy will concentrate on rehabilitation rather than habilitation.
 - ❖ A member asked if there will be new funding or better management of existing funds. Ms. Wainwright responded that the Division is looking at this issue. The Division may be able to allocate some funds differently. There is an eight million dollar increase in the Senate budget proposal which has been designated for specific purposes.
 - ❖ A member asked about the Divisions' progress on the Comprehensive Prevention/Early Intervention Plan. Leza responded by saying that she was unsure of the progress of this plan and would prefer that Janice Peterson provide an update.
 - ❖ A member provided feedback on the use of the NC TOPPS tool regarding the questions to children and adolescents. According to the member, some consumers and providers have expressed to her that they find some of these survey questions inappropriate and invasive. Ms. Wainwright stated that she has not read the survey and asked if the SCFAC had provided this feedback to the Division's Quality Management Team. Sandy Dupuy said

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she would provide that information to the Quality Management Team after further review by the Mecklenburg CFAC.

10. A Second Public Comment Period was Held after Lunch.

- ◆ SCFAC member Zack Commander announced the birth of a son named Vykhyyi Shabazz Commander on Friday April 29, 2005.
- ◆ Ellen Perry presented a list of concerns developed by Club Nova, a clubhouse located in the OPC catchment area. The position paper states that the Mental Health Trust Fund is under- funded, that there is insufficient funding to provide services to people in the target populations and requested that a service definition be developed that would support clubhouses rather than strictly funding Psycho-Social Rehabs.
- ◆ A motion was made, seconded and passed that the SCFAC would review and comment on the issues raised in Club Nova's position paper after receiving more specific information related to these concerns.
- ◆ Mrs. Julia Masters addressed the group and thanked the individual members for their work on the SCFAC.
- ◆ Judy Clark, Chairperson of SEC CFAC, welcomed the group to Wilmington and the Southeastern Center.

11. Deaf and Hard of Hearing Presentation

- ◆ Brad Trotter presented on the DMH/DD/SAS' Deaf and Hard of Hearing program. Mr. Trotter provided the group with hard copies of a power point document used to supplement the presentation.
- ◆ Lee Williamson served as an interpreter for Mr. Trotter.
- ◆ Mr. Trotter's presentation included historical background information on Cross Area Service Programs (CASPs) for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing population.
- ◆ Mr. Trotter's presentation also addressed how divestiture would affect these programs and provided information on the transition plan that has been developed to address the effects of divestiture on these services.

12. Publication of the Names of People who Present to the SCFAC

- ◆ The Committee discussed a member's concern that people who present to the SCFAC currently have their full names published in the minutes.
- ◆ Member Pete Clary commented that he saw nothing in the law that would preclude publishing the first name and last initial of people who present.
- ◆ The group agreed to offer presenters the option of not having their full names published in the minutes.

13. Future Agendas

- ◆ A member requested that information on the state operated Alcohol and Drug Abuse Treatment Centers (ADATCs) be provided to the SCFAC outlining who the facilities will serve.
- ◆ The group agreed to have two public comment periods built into subsequent agendas.

14. SCFAC Voting Protocol

- ◆ The group discussed the current voting protocol of the SCFAC.
- ◆ The group decided that in the case of close votes, they would go to written ballots.

15. Conflict of Interest Question

- ◆ Barbara Richards asked if she would be allowed to remain on the SCFAC if she took a leave of absence from her present position with an LME.
- ◆ The committee held a vote and agreed that if Ms. Richards was to take a leave of absence from her paid position with an LME that she would be allowed to continue to serve as a SCFAC member.
- ◆ Barbara Richards made a motion to re-visit the SCFAC vote regarding conflict of interest issues. The motion was seconded but did not pass.
- ◆ Following discussion, a motion was made, seconded and passed to re-affirm the original SCFAC vote pertaining to the 8 areas representing potential conflicts of interest that could potentially affect CFAC membership.

16. SCFAC Meeting Dates & Additional Information

- ◆ The committee discussed possibly moving the date of future SCFAC meetings to the 3rd or 4th Thursday of the month.
- ◆ The group agreed to add this topic as an agenda item for discussion during June's meeting.
- ◆ Sandy DuPuy encouraged the committee members to review Communication Bulletin #37 and indicated that she would send the SCFAC members further information on this bulletin to consider.

17. Next Meeting

- ◆ The next meeting is scheduled for June 9, 2005 from 9:30 A.M. – 3:30 P.M. and will be held at Dix Campus-Royster Building, Room 116.

18. June Meeting Agenda

- ◆ Approval of the Agenda.
- ◆ Approval of May's Minutes.
- ◆ Presentation from Jim Jarrard, Accountability Team Leader.
- ◆ Discussion of meeting dates and location of the meeting.
- ◆ There will be two public comment periods.
- ◆ Discussion of the State Plan 2005.